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PARENT CONNECTION APRIL 2022

Family Strengthening Month

Every child deserves to grow up in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment. Please join us in promoting the safety and well-being of Wisconsin children this April during Family Strengthening Month (known nationally as Child Abuse Prevention Month).

See page 2 for a great resource to intentionally focus on your family's strengths this month!

Then...stay connected with us on Facebook all month long for more information, tips, and encouragement!

APRIL EVENTS

Family Fun Night "Things that Go" 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Stories - Craft **Snack - Activities**





April 12 - Darlington -OR- April 21 - Platteville Our Lady of Fatima (basement) 104 E Harriet St

O.E. Gray Building 110 W. Adams St

FREE **CAR SEAT INSTALLATION & INSPECTION**

Need a car seat? We have them available! Already have a car seat or booster? We will check to ensure it is properly installed

> Saturday, April 23 9 am to Noon at **KUNES** 1950 Ubersox Drive Platteville in the Shimmer Building

SHIMME

Did you Know? **Correctly used** child safety seats can reduce the risk of death by up to 71%

SIGN UP HERE

Sign Up Required



Thursdays 9:30-11:00a.m.

Bring your little ones for a morning of active play, story time, and an art activity.

(click on theme to be directed to Facebook event for RSVP) April 7 April Showers April 21 Earth Day April 14 Bunnies and Eggs April 28 May Day

WORDS EVERY CHILD NEEDS TO HEAR

"I am so lucky to have you." "You are a great helper." "I love vou!" "I like it when you try so hard." "Let's talk about it." "I am sorry." "You are very special to me." "Thank you for being patient." "You are a great kid!"

"I enjoy spending time with you."

preventchildabusewi.org



Try the 5 in 5 Challenge

Use Family Strengthening Month as an opportunity to focus on your family's strengths. Research shows there are 5 specific Strengths that help families weather difficulties, support their children's growth, and feel better connected. Focus on a different Strength every weekday using the checklists below. It's a simple way to try out new strength-building ideas and find out what meets your family's needs.



Meaningful Mondays	Toolbox Tuesdays	Recharge Wednesdays	Resourceful Thursdays	Feelings Fridays
It's important to spend meaningful time with loved ones and to reach out to others for acceptance, advice, and a helping hand. Try these ideas for Connecting with Others :	Adding new skills to your parenting toolbox helps you be prepared as your children change and grow. Try these ideas for Parenting As Children Grow :	Taking care of yourself is an important part of taking care of your family. Take time to relax, recharge, and reduce stress. Try these ideas for Building Inner Strength :	Having a strong support system made up of personal and community resources is essential for every family. Try these ideas for Knowing How to Find Help:	Kids who learn how to understand and manage feelings become better at dealing with challenges and building healthy relationships. Try these ideas for Helping Kids
Go device-free during meals	 Share your parenting iovs and concerns with 	Take a bath	 List 3 people you can always turn to 	Understand Feelings:
or family time	other parents	Call a loved one who makes	Check out your local family	 Read or tell a story about feelings
 Take a class or join a club online 	 Make time to connect one- on-one with your children 	you laugh	resource center's services	Share an emotion you
Reach out to the	Tap your pediatrician	 Reflect on a challenge vou've overcome 	 Practice by asking for help with a small thing 	are feeling
homebound or elderly	for advice	 Unplug with a book, a movie, 	Add the 211 Helpline to	 Talk about ways to express big emotions
Join or host a virtual game night	Sign up for a virtual	or music	your contacts	 Think through a challenge
game night Deliver dinner to a neighbor 	parenting class Get to know your child's	 Stretch your muscles and exercise 	 Ask your circle for their recommendations 	out loud
Volunteer in COVID-safe	friends	Get outside for awhile	Thank someone for	 Encourage and praise kind behavior
ways	Read a parenting website	□ Breathe in slowly, count to 5,	their support	Do a task that takes
Send a text to an old friend	or blog	breathe out	 Let a loved one know you're 	cooperation
 Schedule a hangout with your friends 	 Work together to reach a family goal 	 Spend a little time on a favorite hobby 	ready to help Get to know your neighbors	Ask your child what they're
 Fit a good hug or snuggle into your day 	 Praise your child's good choices and positive behavior 	 Enjoy eating a favorite treat 	or parents at school	feeling and why
		Light a scented candle		 Teach a calming skill like counting to 10 or deep

Play a video game

Here's a tip! Use the boxes to keep track of your progress. Checkmark the ideas you'll use again and draw an X by those that didn't work for your family.

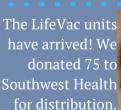
Five for Families breathing

Download a printable version of this challenge <u>here</u>

Learn more about the 5 Strengths that keep every family strong at FiveforFamilies.org

March Happenings









LifeVac Update

We have also begun distributing LifeVac units to school districts and Head Start Programs in Grant and Lafayette counties.

LifeVac is designed to save a life in a choking emergency.

This donation was made possible through a generous grant from the Ann & Leo Stoll Jr. Charitable Trust by way of Mound City Bank.



Thank you to the

following agencies for

their support:













Platteville Thrift Shop

platteville community fund

Wav of Platteville